REMARKS

On page 2 of the Action, claims 1, 2 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeuner et al.

In view of the rejection, claims 5-7 have been cancelled, and the subject matter of cancelled claims 5-7 have been incorporated into claim 1. The amendment does not introduce new issue.

In the invention, a gas generator comprises a container having an outer shell, a gas initiator disposed in the container, a squib disposed adjacent to the gas initiator for igniting the gas initiator and having a squib holder with a shoulder, and a partition disposed in the outer shell for dividing the container into a plurality of gas initiator chambers.

In the invention, the partition includes projections projecting from an inner peripheral surface of the partition, dents at sides opposite to the projections, and a collar for holding the squib holder between the projections and the collar. The shoulder of the squib holder is formed at an upper peripheral edge of the squib holder contacting the partition. Thus, when the squib holder is inserted into the partition, the shoulder of the squib holder abuts against the projections to position the squib inside the partition.

In the invention, the projections can be easily formed by punching and the like from the outside of the partition while forming dents on the outer surface of the partition. The entire squib holder is held between the projections and the collar, and contacts the partition, so that the squib can be easily and surely retained inside the partition.

In Zeuner et al., a gas generator includes a housing 2, a central tube 1 situated in a center of the housing 2, and an igniter 5 situated in the tube 1. In the Examiner's opinion shown in the attachments in the first and final rejections, a shoulder is

formed in a squib holder, and a positioning member and a collar are formed in the central tube 1.

Actually, what is disclosed in Zeuner et al. is that the squib holder includes a plurality of projections or an annular projection projecting outwardly from a middle of an outer periphery of the squib holder, and the tube 1 includes a plurality of dents or an annular dent for receiving the projections or annular projection. The collar of the tube 1 is formed to hold the projections or annular projection in the dents or annular dent.

In the invention, the partition includes the projections projecting from an inner peripheral surface of the partition. In Zeuner et al., the tube 1 includes the dents or annular dent, but there are no projections projecting from the inner peripheral surface of the tube 1.

In the invention, the dents are formed at the sides opposite to the projections. In Zeuner et al., no dents are formed at the outer surface of the tube 1.

In the invention, also, the squib holder is held between the projections and the collar. In Zeuner et al., although the collar holds the squib holder, the projections or annular projection located in the dents or annular dent are pinched by the collar.

In the invention, further, the shoulder is formed at the upper peripheral edge of the squib holder contacting the partition so that when the squib holder is inserted into the partition, the shoulder of the squib holder abuts against the projections to position the squib inside the partition. In Zeuner et al., the shoulder is formed at the squib holder, but the shoulder does not abut against any projections of the tube 1. Namely, the shoulder is not used to position the squib holder in Zeuner et al.

As explained above, the features of the invention now recited in claim 1 are not disclosed or suggested in Zeuner et al. The invention is not obvious from Zeuner et al.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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